programmes. These programmes are being expanded throughout the country to the extent the financial resources are made available. Further intensification of research and development efforts is also underway towards improvement in performance of systems and devices as also the cost effectiveness of such devices.

Lapses in the functioning of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications

131. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in his report has revealed several lapses in the functioning of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications;

(b) if so, the details of the main lapses revealed in the report; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to remove the lapses and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on Posts & Telecommunications for the year 1986-87 was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 29.3.88. The details of the main lapses are available in the Report, copies of which are also available in the library of the Parliament.

(c) As per usual practice, Government is required to intimate the action taken on the various points raised in the Report to the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament when the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India is taken up for consideration. The Public Accounts Committee also monitors the further action taken by Government on the recommendations made by the Committee based on their findings during the oral evidance and written replies furnished by Government.

Energy conservation in private sector

132. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the impending acute shortage of power in future due to failure of monsoon last year;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to conserve energy in the private installations and institutions to meet the power shortage;

(c) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to introduce check-measures like energy audit in private sector; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (d) There was a shortfall of about 9 billion units in hydel generation during 1987-88 mainly due to the low reservoir levels. A Contingency Plan was implemented to augment thermal generaaion which exceeded the taregt of 1987-88 by about 6.4 billion units. Measures are being taken to improve the availability of power which is expected to be higher in the current year as compared with 1987-88. Steps have also been taken to promote conservation of energy both in the public and private sectors including energy audits of energy intensive industrial units, promoting better awareness regarding the need for energy conservation, and grant of incentives for adoption of energy saving devices. Measures are also being taken for standardisation of electrical equipments and appliances and display of information regarding energy consumption levels